

IN THE CLAIMS

1-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) An emoticon input method in a mobile terminal, comprising the steps of:

creating, by a user, a plurality of emoticons within a range of a transmittable SMS (Short Message Service) message formed by utilizing a plurality of typical characters and special characters in combination;

grouping said plurality of emoticons and storing the emoticons by groups in the mobile terminal;

entering an emoticon input mode;

displaying a list of the stored emoticon groups;

selecting an emoticon group;

displaying the emoticons of an emoticon group selected by a user; and

storing an emoticon selected by the user with an SMS message.

11. (Original) The emoticon input method of claim 10, wherein the emoticons are stored by a manufacturer in the process of manufacturing.

12. (Original) The emoticon input method of claim 10, wherein the emoticons are created and stored directly by the user.

13. (Original) The emoticon input method of any of claim 10, wherein the emoticons are received from a base station and stored in the mobile terminal.

14. (Original) The emoticon input method of claim 10, wherein the emoticons are downloaded into the mobile terminal from the Internet and stored in the mobile terminal.

15. (Original) The emoticon input method of claim 10, further comprising the step of changing and editing the emoticons by the user.

16. (Previously Presented) An emoticon input method in a mobile terminal, comprising the steps of:

creating, by a user, at least one emoticon within a range of a transmittable SMS (Short Message Service) message, which is formed by utilizing a plurality of typical characters and special characters in combination;

storing the at least one emoticon in an emoticon group selected by a user among a plurality of emoticon groups comprised of previously grouped emoticons according to a specific reference;

displaying a list of the plurality of emoticon groups in an emoticon input mode;

displaying emoticons included in an emoticon group selected by a user among the plurality of emoticon groups;

selecting, by a user, at least one emoticon from the displayed emoticons; and

transmitting an SMS message including the at least one emoticon selected by a user.

17. (Original) The emoticon input method of claim 16, wherein the emoticons are formed and stored by a manufacturer in the process of manufacturing.

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19. (Original) The emoticon input method of claim 16, wherein the emoticons are received from a base station and stored in the mobile station.

20. (Original) The emoticon input method of claim 16, wherein the emoticons are downloaded into the mobile terminal from the Internet and stored in the mobile terminal.

21. (Original) The emoticon input method of claim 16, further comprising the step of changing and editing the emoticons by the user.

22. (Previously Presented) An emoticon input method in a mobile terminal, comprising the steps of:

- entering an emoticon input mode;
- displaying a list of a plurality of emoticon groups comprised of previously grouped emoticons within a range of a transmittable SMS (Short Message Service) message according to a specific reference in the emoticon input mode, wherein the emoticons are created by utilizing a plurality of typical characters and special characters in combination, and stored in the mobile terminal;
- displaying emoticons included in an emoticon group selected by a user among the plurality of emoticon groups;
- selecting, by a user, an emoticon from the displayed emoticons; and
- storing within an SMS message the emoticon which is selected by the user.

23. (Previously Presented) The emoticon input method of claim 22, wherein the list of emoticons and the emoticons are stored in the form of a bit map.

24. (Previously Presented) The emoticon input method of claim 22, further comprising the step of transmitting the SMS message including the stored emoticon.

25. (Previously Presented) The emoticon input method of claim 22, wherein the list of a plurality of emoticon groups and the emoticons are created and stored by the user.

26. (Previously Presented) The emoticon input method of claim 22, wherein the list of a plurality of emoticon groups and the emoticons are received from a base station and stored in the mobile terminal.

27. (Previously Presented) The emoticon input method of claim 22, wherein the list of a plurality of emoticon groups and the emoticons are downloaded into the mobile terminal from the Internet and stored in the mobile terminal.

28. (Previously Presented) The emoticon input method of claim 22, further comprising the step of changing and editing the emoticons by the user.

29. (Previously Presented) The emoticon input method of claim 16, wherein the emoticon groups include upper groups and lower groups.